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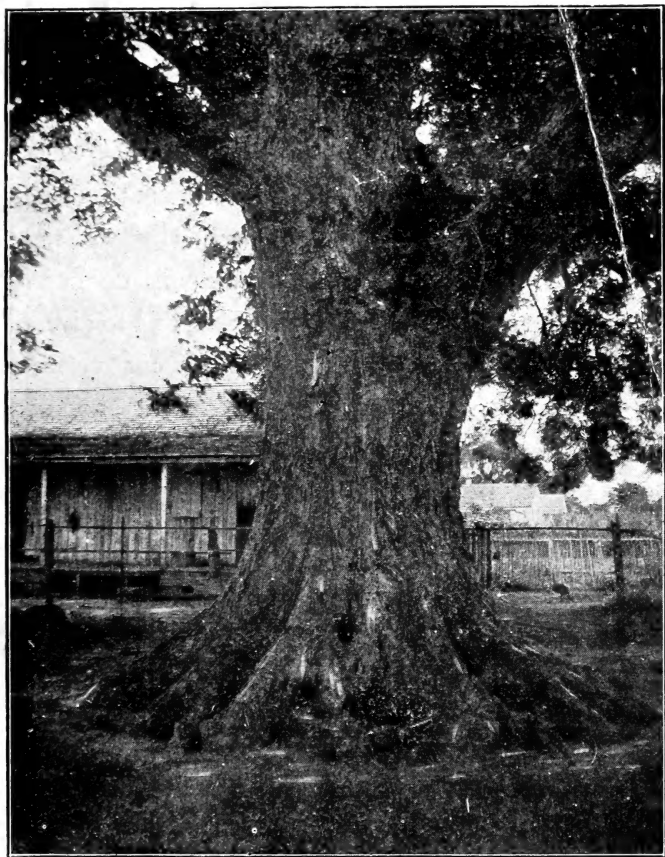
1913

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Catalog

of Budded and Grafted
PECAN TREES

OF THE FINEST VARIETIES



ONE OF THE OLD LOUISIANA PECAN TREES.
Plant a Pecan Orchard and you and yours have a lasting
income.

THE PAPER SHELL PECAN NURSERY

W. M. ELLISON, Manager.

LAFAYETTE, LA.

1913

TO OUR PATRONS

WE receive many inquiries concerning Pecan culture, and the object of this catalog is to answer in detail these questions.

If any point is not fully covered and perfectly clear, write us, and we will do our best to let you know and to give you the benefit of our close study and experience.

Aside from our specialty, the Pecan, we are propagators of the Satsuma Orange on the hardy Citrus Trifoliata stock. We believe this is the best filler that one can procure on the Gulf Coast.

Respectfully,

THE PAPER SHELL PECAN
NURSERY

W. M. ELLISON, Manager



THE PECAN

AS A MONEY-MAKING PROPOSITION

Bearing Pecan groves, ten to fifteen years old, are selling at prices ranging from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00 per acre.

Why?

1st.—They bring in a revenue to justify the investment.

2nd.—They will continue to do so.

Let us start at the beginning and go over the proposition.

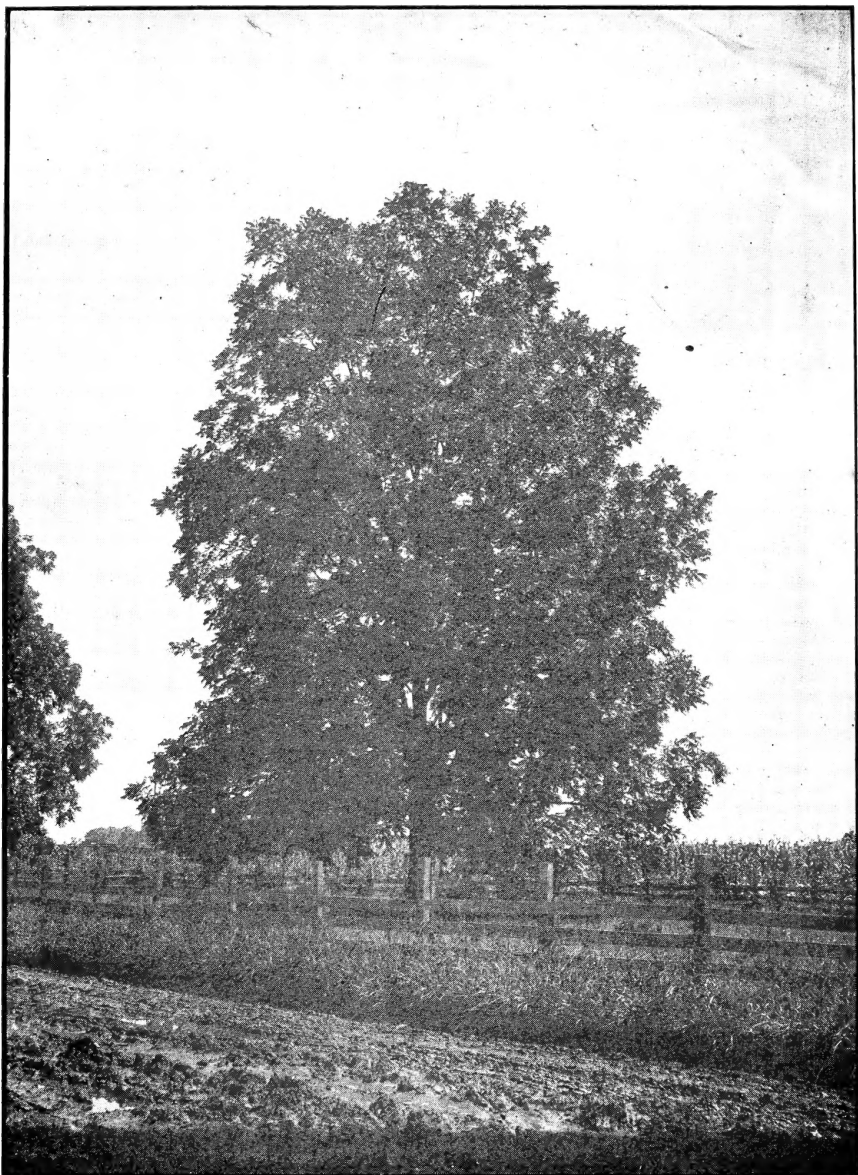
A FINE TABLE NUT

Of all the choice table nuts that are grown in America, the Paper-Shell Pecan is by far superior in flavor and quality to all others. It is used as a dessert nut by the wealthier classes, by large hotels and cafes. The general public as yet know nothing of the finer varieties, which are far superior in size, flavor and thinness of shell to the common Pecan of commerce. The scientific world tells us that nuts can take the place of meat on the table, and there is a constantly growing dislike to the high price of, and, as they think, unhealthy meat. It is also an acknowledged fact that meat will continue to increase in price, and, as it does so, nut food will come more and more in demand. The price of good paper-shell Pecans varies now between twenty-five and fifty cents a pound, and prospects are that the demand cannot be supplied for the next fifty years.

WILL PECAN PLANTING BE OVERDONE?

We believe it will not, and this is the judgment of men who have carefully investigated the subject. The area adapted to the finer varieties is limited to the lower South, and, as we practically have the world for a market, the demand will continue to be greater than the supply.

New uses are being found for nut meats all the time, and when we remember that James J. Hill said that the population of the United States will double during the next fifty years, and that, unless we produce more, mankind will go supperless to bed, we need not fear for an overproduction. They are worth the money compared with all other foodstuffs, and, as the high cost of living continues to increase, the demand for nut meats will continue to increase. The market is just beginning to give evidence of the enormous proportions it will assume when the finer varieties of the Pecan become more generally known. At present we export approximately \$130,000 worth of nuts, while we import the enormous sum of \$9,573,400 worth from abroad. Last year the value of the crop of paper-shell Pecans was between \$15,000 and \$20,000, and gave big returns per acre. The industry cannot soon be overdone.



Pecan tree standing in grove near Lafayette, showing symmetrical growth and maximum fruiting surface. This type is peculiar to most of the chosen varieties.

LUTHER BURBANK ON THE PECAN INDUSTRY

A few years ago we heard Luther Burbank, the master of practical and scientific horticulture, make these statements:

"If I were a young man I would go South, knowing as I do the possibilities of the Pecan industry, and devote my life in propagating new species of the Pecan, doing the same work there in nut culture as I have done in other lines of horticulture. Your Pecan is superior to our Walnut, and you are standing in your own light. Why not develop it?

"I cannot think of any kind of diversification likely to pay the Southern Farmer as well as Pecan-growing.

"Cotton can be raised between the trees while they are small, and when they get large enough to shade the land the income from them will be greater than that from a much larger area in cotton, even at present prices."

Mr. Burbank made this statement before the boll-weevil had made its appearance. Then we were making a bale of cotton to the acre; now we cannot do half as well, and, near the woods, no cotton at all.

THE BOLL-WEEVIL DOES NOT EAT PECANS

The Southern planter who has seen his cotton eaten up by boll-weevils, and his revenues cut in half, should think seriously of planting Pecan trees. They take up only about one-tenth of the tillable land. If it is cotton or corn, bed two rows together and plant your rows of trees, putting them in rich soil fifty by sixty feet apart, or fifteen trees to the acre. On sandy lands they should be planted forty feet each way, or twenty-seven to the acre. Plant your trees carefully and take care of them, and later in life they will take care of you.

In planting peach and plum orchards, if you plant a Pecan tree for every third tree in every third row, it will reach a profitable age about the time the peach and plum orchard becomes exhausted.

A Pecan grove is one of the biggest assets that one can possess. The industry is just beginning to assume importance, and, in our judgment, is the best investment one can make. If you own your own land, it costs only a few dollars to start a Pecan orchard; but, if you have to pay, say, \$50 an acre for forty acres, you will have a first cost for land of \$2,000. It is much easier for one who now owns his land to plant a Pecan grove than it is for one who would have to make the larger investment.

GRAFTED OR BUDDED TREES VS. SEEDLINGS

There is no controversy between the adherents of the two plans of propagating the Pecan for profit. Those who advocated the planting of seedlings have had to yield to the universal law—that all seedlings are unreliable, and that the only way to get the desired size, thinness of shell, cracking qualities and annual heavy bearing is to find the nut that combines these qualities in the highest degree, and then to bud or graft from that tree.

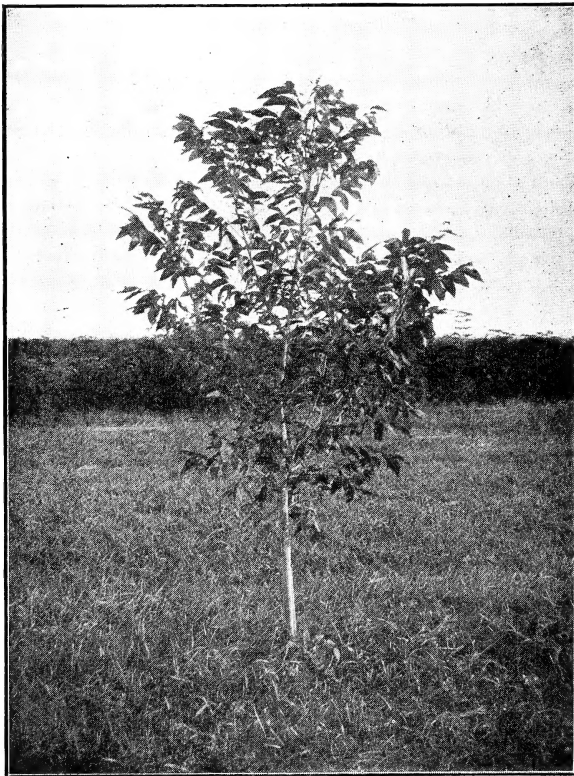
The finer varieties of Pecan trees are budded or grafted from annual heavy bearers, and hence each will bear as the mother tree, or produce every year a heavy crop of nuts. Not being crowded, as the forest trees sometimes are, they will not be exhausted by bearing a heavy crop. Thrashing a Pecan tree is also the main reason why it does not bear every year up to the maximum. When a tree is thrashed, the Pecan buds for the next year's

crop are knocked off, and, consequently, some people think that a Pecan tree will only bear a heavy crop every other year. A commercial orchard is usually covered with grass, on which a horse-mower is run just before the harvest. The nuts are allowed to fall, when fully matured, of their own accord, raked up by hand and sacked.

WHAT AND WHEN THEY WILL PRODUCE

Apple trees begin to bear no sooner than does the Pecan. At the age of five or six years a properly cared for grafted Pecan tree should begin to bear. Occasionally some bear at four. The crop, small at first, increases at a remarkable rate, and, at from eight to nine years after planting, one will receive a handsome revenue, and each year will show a large increase. At thirty years of age there is no telling what an orchard of fancy varieties would produce.

Here are a few examples, and standard varieties, being grafted from heavy producers, should do as well.



Young Pecan tree in its third year from planting
in orchard. Variety—Stuart

A VALUABLE PECAN TREE

"There is a Pecan tree at Monticello which bids fair to break all records as to bearing qualities. In the season of 1905 it bore 600 pounds of nuts and has averaged 500 pounds for the last three years. As it is less than twenty years old, it has plenty of time in which to increase its present yield.

"The Pecans sold at twelve cents a pound, making the proceeds for the season \$60." (From the Monticello News.) (This tree is owned by a Mr. Lindsey.)

FINE TREES IN LAFAYETTE

Mr. Chas. G. Larrabee, a citizen of this place, has a Pecan orchard on his place near town, one tree of which last year netted him over \$65, and year before last one of the other trees was reported as having produced nearly \$100 worth of Pecans. These trees are from twenty to thirty years old. He says he wishes he had a one-hundred-acre grove filled with trees like the above.

PECAN-GROWING AND STOCK-FARMING

No two industries can be better combined than Pecan-growing and stock-farming. In this locality one acre of Pecan orchard, if used as pasture, will keep one head of stock fat for nine months in the year, and I have seen pastures do twice as well. It is hard to find a prettier sight, especially if you are the owner, than a piece of land with bearing Pecan trees set in straight rows, and fine-blooded cattle grazing between the trees.

SOIL

Our nursery here near Lafayette is acknowledged by experts to be the ideal soil for the growing of Pecan trees. We get a very thrifty, stocky tree and a good root system, much better than is gotten in sandier soils.

Pecan groves adapt themselves to almost any soil, doing well on sandy loam on sand sub-soil (sand twenty feet deep); black loam with clay sub-soil; black waxy, like the rich black-land belt in Texas; and on any land that will grow cotton. They will do well on high upland cut-over pine lands, and come into bearing sooner than on our rich sugar lands.

CARE OF THE TREES ON ARRIVAL

When trees arrive, open them at once, and keep them wet until they are planted. Do not let the roots get dry, and your trees will be almost sure to live. If you are not able to plant them at once, dig a trench in a cool, damp place and heel them out, keeping the roots well moistened until ready to plant.

Take only a few trees to the field at a time, and keep roots well wrapped in a wet sack. Lay the bundle by the first hole, take out a tree and plant it, then go to the second hole. Never put the tree in the hole until you are ready to immediately plant it, for the roots will dry out in a few moments.

Trees should be planted between December 1st and February 15th to get the best results. If planted early in the winter, they get the soil well settled around their roots by the winter rains. You had better order early, however, so as not to be disappointed. By paying down one-fourth, you can get your trees held for you until you want them shipped. Last season the best trees were sold out by Christmas.

PLANTING

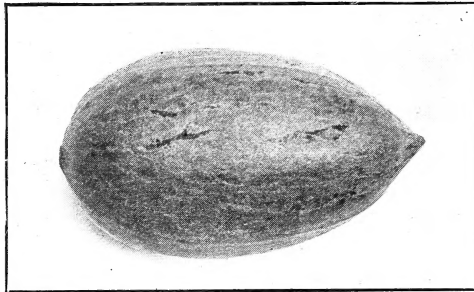
The holes should be dug when the trees arrive, about a foot and a half across, and from two to three feet deep, depending on size of tree purchased. Set the tree a little deeper than it was in the nursery row, cut the root ends off fresh with a sharp knife, leaving no ragged or broken ends. The top should be cut back also, but this is usually done in the nursery before shipping. Place the tree in the hole and fill about one-third full, using top soil, then settle with a bucket of water. The water causes the dirt to fill in well around the roots. Now fill the hole almost full with some more surface soil, and pour in another bucket of water. Fill the last two or three inches with dry or loose dirt. If water is hard to get, pack dirt firmly as hole is being filled, and leave it loose on top, to act as a mulch. If convenient, pile oat straw, hay or any like material around the tree so that it will make a mulch some three feet across, and about three or four inches deep. This will conserve the moisture and keep down the weeds.

PRUNING

Little pruning is needed. It should be allowed to head from five to seven feet from the ground. The third winter from planting the trees should have the small limbs on their trunks removed, or those below where you want your tree to head.

A grove planted in standard varieties and cared for in the above manner will be a certain success.

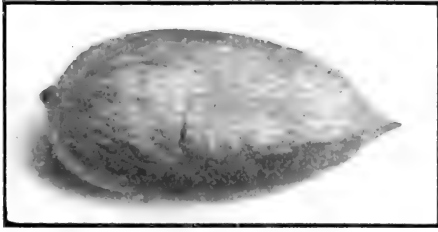
VARIETIES



STUART

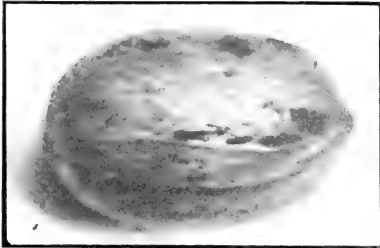
The best known variety

Stuart—The Stuart is a very large, well-filled Pecan of good cracking qualities, and a heavy bearer. The tree is vigorous and healthy. This variety is succeeding well over Louisiana and Texas, and is the safest and most profitable of all for market planting. We recommend this variety for commercial groves.



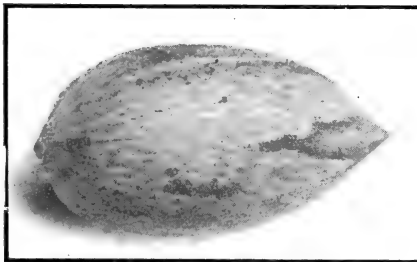
VAN DEMAN

Van Deman—A large, long, soft-shell nut of good flavor and good quality. A very popular market nut and one of the safest to plant generally. Tree vigorous, healthy, and a good bearer.



FROTCHER

Frotcher—This variety, like the Stuart, is succeeding over a wide area, and is one of the safest and most profitable varieties to plant. Is a very large Pecan, the largest paper-shell, and is very good every way. Tree a vigorous grower, and makes an ideal round-headed tree, as shown on second page, and is a regular bearer. This is the variety that is growing over the grave of the late Governor Hogg of Texas.



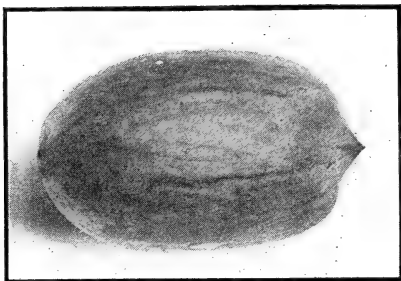
RUSSELL

Russell—Is a very fine paper-shell nut, and the tree is a regular and abundant bearer; but, as it continues its growth very late in the season, we recommend that this variety be planted in the lower half of the Gulf States.



SCHLEY
The Ideal Pecan

Schley—This is the ideal Pecan, we believe, combining the best points of all. The meat, which is very rich and of excellent flavor, fills the shell to its extreme capacity, and is easily extracted whole. Its early maturity makes it a desirable variety for planting in more Northern sections. Foliage is very handsome, and tree grows well-shaped head, bearing young and prolifically.



Young—Similar to Russell in both tree and fruit, and the general characteristics are the same. Not as well known as the Russell, however. The nut is larger and of fine appearance. We recommend this variety for extensive trial.

YOUNG

Delmas—One of the very large Pecans, one of the best fillers and one of the finest of the extra-large nuts. The tree is remarkably vigorous and an early and heavy bearer.

Mantura—This variety is of special promise for planting farther North, and in point of excellence of the nut it is almost equal to Schley. Mantura originated on the James River in Virginia. The old tree is said to be very large and a heavy annual bearer.



VIEW IN NURSERY, SHOWING GRAFTS PUT IN DURING LAST JANUARY. ROWS SIX FEET APART.

PRICE OF THE TREES

Size	Each	Dozen	Per 100
1 to 2 feet high.....	\$1.00	\$10.00	\$75.00
2 to 3 feet high, stocky.....	1.25	12.00	85.00
3 to 4 feet high, heavy.....	1.50	15.00	100.00
4 to 6 feet high, very heavy.....	1.75	18.00	125.00

We guarantee every tree sent out to be well grown, carefully dug and packed, and true to label, and will replace, on proper proof, any that prove otherwise, or refund the purchase price.

THE SATSUMA ORANGE

The introduction of the hardy *Citrus Trifoliata* as a stock for the Satsuma orange has made possible the planting of large orange groves along the Coast Belt. Hundreds of groves are now bringing in good profits, and, although a new industry, orange-growing is gaining in rapid strides, and now has much prominence in South Texas and Southern Louisiana. Adjoining our nursery is a grove of some six hundred trees, and there are trees in this locality that have borne annually about a thousand oranges each for the last four or five years.

The five-year-old Satsuma grove of Mr. N. E. Stout, in South Texas, paid him nearly \$600 per acre, and older groves are doing much better.

Plant 5 or 10 acres to Satsuma Oranges and in four years you will have a good income.

We grow groves under contract.

DESCRIPTION

Of medium size, with loosely adhering rind and easily separated segments; the color is deep yellow; flesh, fine-grained, tender, juicy, sweet and delicious—and entirely seedless. It ripens in September, October and November.

Trees are of somewhat smaller growth than other oranges, and are entirely thornless. They bear second year after planting. It is undoubtedly the hardest known variety, which, in connection with its early ripening and fine quality, makes it an exceedingly valuable orange.

It does well in connection with Pecan trees. Put your rows twenty feet apart and plant trees twenty feet apart in the row, or a hundred to the acre. Plant your Pecan trees 60x60 feet and fill in with Satsumas. You will get in this way twelve Pecan trees, and eighty-eight orange trees to the acre. The two varieties of trees grow well together, neither interfering with the other.

While our specialty, the Pecan, is our leader, yet we can supply our customers with this exceptionally profitable orange, which is now a proved success in the Gulf Coast region.

Upon request, we will be glad to furnish information to all those wishing further knowledge concerning orange-planting for profit.

PRICE OF THE SATSUMA ON TRIFOLIATA STOCK

Size.	Each	Dozen	Per 100
1 to 2 feet high.....	\$0.60	\$6.50	\$40.00
2 to 3 feet high, stocky.....	.75	7.00	50.00
3 to 4 feet high, heavy.....	1.00	8.00	60.00
4 to 5 feet high, very heavy.....	1.25	10.00	70.00

THE FIG TREE

It is a well-known fact that the fig tree can be grown in the Gulf Coast region in its highest state of perfection. Our soil and climate are both well adapted to the fig tree, and in some sections the different varieties are being grown in extensive commercial orchards.

It is a regular crop, and many planters are getting net returns of from two to four hundred dollars per acre, depending on the age of the grove.

The fig tree will bear figs the same year it is planted, and the second year will bear in a commercial way. Groves three years old and older will bear several tons of fruit to the acre.

The fig-canning industry is growing rapidly, and gives an ever-increasing demand for the raw product. Some planters are shipping their figs to the factories, while others are doing their own canning. A great many claim their profits are doubled by canning their figs at home, and then selling their product to the wholesale groceries. They report no trouble in disposing of their canned product at good prices, and are well pleased with the industry.

Figs are easy to can, and anyone may procure and operate a small cannery at small cost and with pleasing results. The main point is that those in the business are now the heaviest planters.

PRUNING

Keep the young sprouts and suckers trimmed off, leaving a good, clean trunk for three feet at least. This causes the tree to bear more heavily, and produces a better grade of fruit.

VARIETIES

We have the following varieties to offer this season to the public. Our trees are from choice stock, and have an excellent root system. Every family should have a few fig trees around the house.

To large growers we will be pleased to quote wholesale prices on application.

Brown Turkey—Bears in October. Is a large, bluish-purple fig, and the largest grown.

Celestial—July. The good, little, blue fig. None is sweeter. Tree very hardy.

Lemon—A large, yellow, sweet fig.

Magnolia—July. Very large, pale green, nearly white; shape varies from ordinary fig shape to very short or flat. Tree bears first year, is a rapid grower and a heavy bearer. It is being planted very extensively in commercial groves, and should be in every home orchard.

THE PRICE OF FIG TREES

Size	Each	Dozen	Per 100
1 to 2 feet high.....	\$0.25	\$2.50	\$13.00
2 to 3 feet high.....	.35	3.50	22.00
3 to 4 feet high.....	.40	4.00	25.00
4 to 6 feet high.....	.50	5.00	27.00

In conclusion, we wish to say that it is to our interest that our customers succeed, and if at any time we can be of service to anyone by giving advice as to varieties to select, or can help him in any way, we will be only too glad to do so, for a pleased customer is our best advertisement.

Please use this sheet in ordering

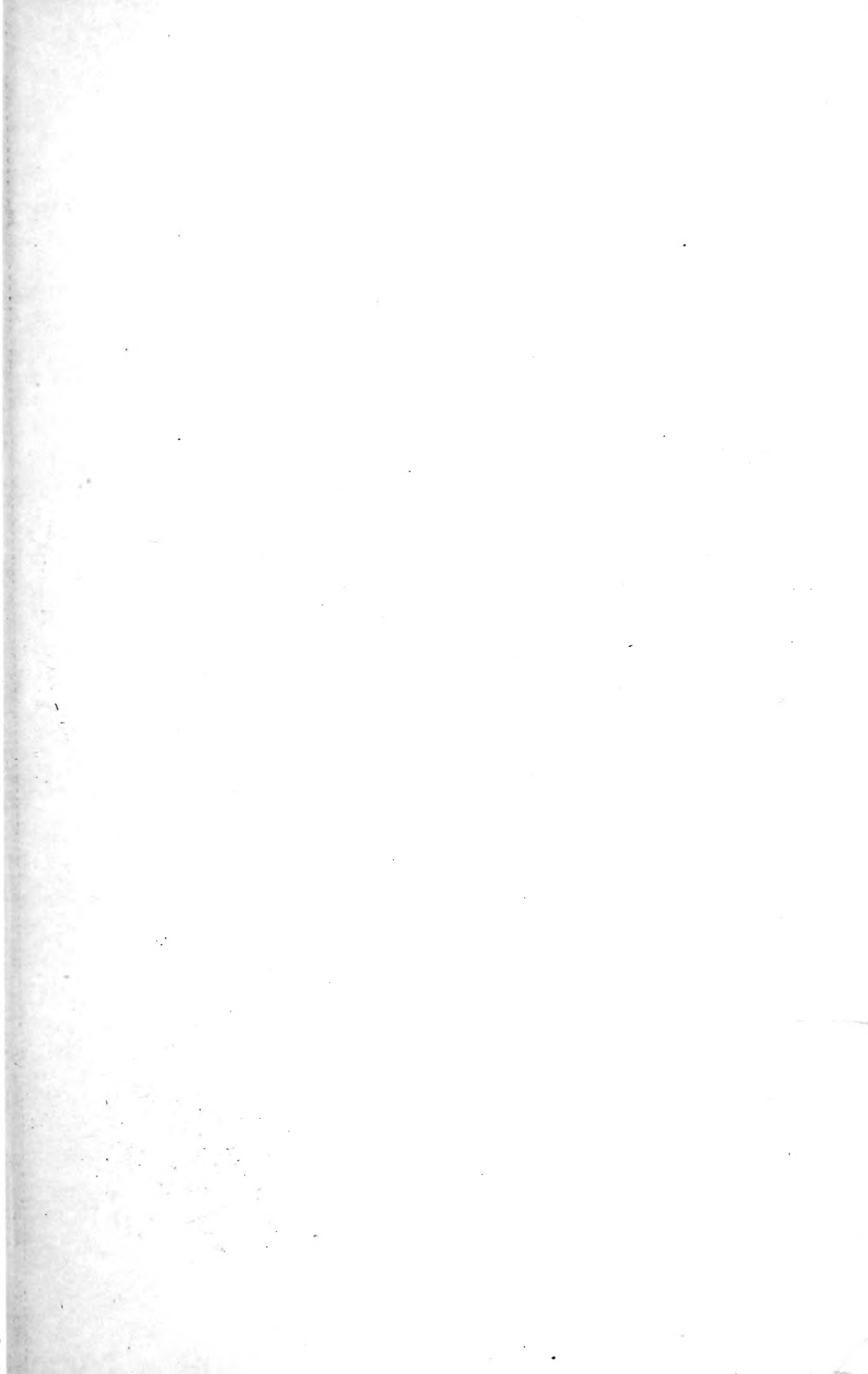
THE PAPER SHELL PECAN NURSERY

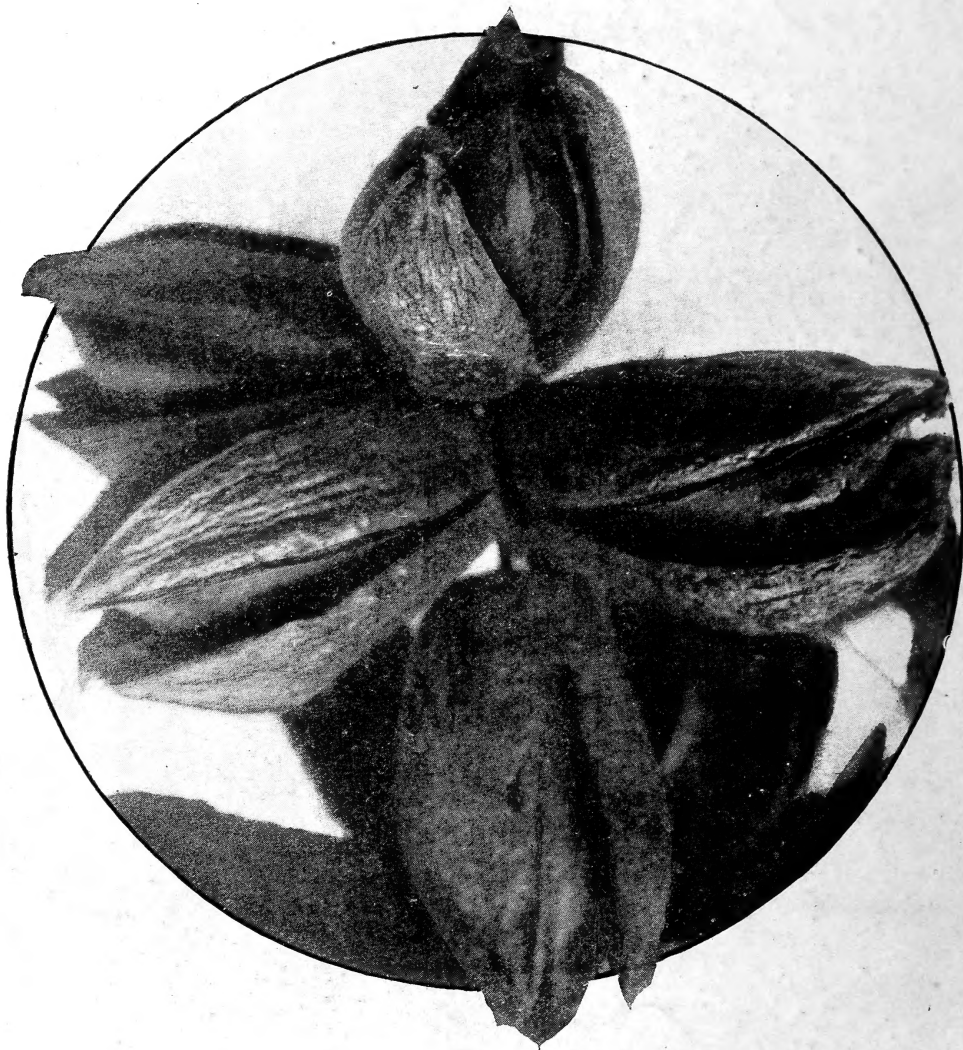
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA.

Please forward by _____ (Write here, "Freight," "Express," or "Use your discretion.")	Amount Enclosed: Postoffice Order \$ _____ Ex. Money Order \$ _____ Bank Draft \$ _____ Cash \$ _____ Total - - \$ _____ Date _____
Exp. or Frgt. Office _____ Name _____ Postoffice _____ County _____ State _____	

VERY IMPORTANT—Always write name and address and shipping directions very plainly. In case any varieties or sizes ordered are exhausted, do you wish us to substitute other varieties to the best of our judgment?----- Or if you wish us to make selection of varieties for you, fill out this order sheet, omitting varietal names, and give us any additional information on separate sheet, stating whether varieties are wanted for home use or market, or both, and character of soil. etc.

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CLUSTER OF GRAFTED PAPER SHELL PECANS
SCHLEY VARIETY